

Apple-Works Forum

The Monthly Publication of NAUG: *The National AppleWorks Users Group*

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Three Dollars

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Support for AppleWorks & ///EZ Pieces Users

New Faces at NAUG

by Cathleen Merritt, Editor

NAUG is growing quickly; we're working hard to keep up with your suggestions and requests. As a result of our growing membership, we recently added two full-time members to the NAUG staff, Jim Smith and Mike Hoppe.

Jim has a Master's Degree in Educational Technology and is a certified teacher. As the Technical and Support Services Coordinator for NAUG, Jim coordinates our special projects, our seminars, our audio and videotapes, and our membership renewal bonus program. In addition, Jim provides technical support to members and makes an active contribution at all our planning sessions.

Mike Hoppe graduated with honors from the University of Michigan with a degree in Communications. He is an experienced technical writer. Mike is responsible for our newsletter layout, our Member Helping Member program, and most of the work on our forthcoming videotape.

We welcome both Jim and Mike. I trust they'll find the active NAUG environment exciting, stimulating and challenging.

Finally, we say goodbye to Bob Royce, who is starting a teaching career. Bob developed many ideas and projects for NAUG, including the new *AppleWorks Forum* layout and the popular Member Helping Member program. Bob, thanks for your hard work, your insightful comments, and your excellent ideas.

The **National AppleWorks Users Group (NAUG)** is an association that supports AppleWorks users. The group provides assistance to members and information about the AppleWorks program and applications of the program. Our primary means of communication with members is through the monthly newsletter entitled the *AppleWorks Forum*.

You Can Use Your CP/M Card

Dear Cathleen,

A letter in the July issue of the *AppleWorks Forum* asks about using the 64K on a CP/M card to increase the memory available for the AppleWorks desktop. I use PlusWorks-XM from Norwick Data Service, Box 356, East Norwick, NY 11732-0356, (516) 922-9584. PlusWorks-XM gives my Franklin 1200 (Apple //+ compatible) a 72K AppleWorks desktop. NAUG members should contact Norwick Data Services for information about using the memory on a CP/M card to expand the AppleWorks desktop.

Gary Williams
Lewisburg, WV

Backup Power Sources?

Dear Cathleen,

In the July issue of the *AppleWorks Forum*, you suggest that members leave their Apple computers on all the time. I checked with some friends who know electronics and they say you are right. However, they warn about power surges and power outages, particularly during the numerous thunderstorms we get in Florida.

How can I protect my equipment and my data from power surges and power failures?

Carl Cooper
Lakeland, FL

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Letters...

[Ed: While in-line surge protectors work for minor power fluctuations, they are generally inadequate for the electrical disruptions caused by thunderstorms. To maximize your protection and to save your data when the power fails, you should consider some form of battery backup or uninterruptable power supply (UPS).

If you have an Apple IIc, there are two inexpensive alternatives that provide this protection. The Quarterback QB-2C (from Powersine Products, \$97.95 list price) gives you about 15 minutes to save your data, and Juice (from Orbic Controls, \$169.95 list price) offers about two hours of power if the electricity fails. In addition, these devices isolate your computer from the wall outlet and give you protection from power surges, brown-outs, and other powerline disruptions. In the July 1987 AppleWorks Forum, I recommended using the Prairie Power Pack as a substitute for an uninterruptable power supply (UPS). The manufacturer of the Prairie Power Pack reports that the unit is designed as a portable power supply for the IIc, not as a replacement for a UPS. The Prairie Power Pack should not be left on for more than eight hours at a time, nor can it be used as I suggested earlier.

It's more expensive to protect an Apple IIe or IIGS computer from the electrical unknowns caused by thunderstorms. Talk to your local dealer or an electronics supply company about an uninterruptable power supply (UPS). These come in two varieties; (a) units with batteries that "kick in" when the electricity fails, and (b) units that power your computer from the battery and are recharged from the wall outlet. The latter design offers better protection and is recommended.

Other things to consider:

1. These backup systems are particularly important if you plan to use your Apple in third world countries. The electrical service in some of these countries is notoriously unreliable.
2. None of these systems will power a standard

AC monitor. Unless you have a liquid crystal display (like the C-View display from Roger Coats, \$299) you will be working in the dark if the power fails.]

How to Get Better Quality Print with an Epson Printer

Dear NAUG,

My friend has an ImageWriter // printer and gets beautiful correspondence-quality output from AppleWorks by pressing the "Print Quality" switch on the printer. Is it time for me to sell my old Epson FX-80 and upgrade to the ImageWriter //?

Alice Rosenberg
Chautauqua, New York

[Ed: If you want an excuse to get rid of your older and slower FX-80, there are many printers on the market that allow you to select correspondence quality by using the switches on the printer. However, you can add that feature to your older Epson by getting an upgrade kit called "Dots Perfect" from Dresselhaus, 8560, Suite 405, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730. Dots Perfect lists for \$79.95 and works with the Epson FX, JX, RX, and MX series printers.]

Formatting Blank Cells in the Spreadsheet

Dear Cathleen,

Can you help with this AppleWorks spreadsheet problem? I frequently design spreadsheets with different numeric formats for different columns; e.g., dollar format for some columns, fixed format for others. However, when I enter data into the preformatted cells, the data does not follow my format instructions. Is there any way I can "pre-format" empty columns so the data takes the correct format when entered?

Marshall Simon
Fairfield, CT

(continued on the next page)

[Ed: Yes, you can pre-format blank cells so data entered into those cells follow your formatting instructions. The trick is to define the cells as a "Block", not as "Columns" or "Rows" when you give the Layout (Apple-L) command. Define the cells as a "Block" whenever you want to format or protect empty cells.]

Questions About the Word Processor

Dear Cathleen,

1. Is there any way to change the default settings for the AppleWorks word processor module? I don't want to have to change my left and right margins every time I start a new AppleWorks document.
2. Is there any way to insert Control and Escape characters into text output on disk from AppleWorks? I send manuscripts to a publisher as ASCII files on ProDOS disks and want to embed the Control and Escape sequences required to print my documents.
3. How do you find and replace carriage returns? My publisher requires me to put a "<" at the beginning of every paragraph, and I want to use the Replace command in AppleWorks to search for the two carriage returns and insert that character.

William Kesler
Manchester, MO

[1. Has anyone figured out a way to change the AppleWorks format default settings? Right now I know of no easy way to change those settings.

There are two ways to avoid entering all those commands every time you start a new document:

A. Save those settings in a Startup file on your AppleWorks data disk and recall that file from your disk whenever you want to create a new document. Instead of telling AppleWorks

you want to create a new document for the word processor, select choice #1 (The current disk) from the Add Files Menu and bring in your file containing the formatting commands. Change the name of that file to the name you want on your document and start typing. This process is described in the "Word Processor Tips" article in the September 1986 issue of the AppleWorks Forum.

B. Create a macro for KeyPlayer, Super MacroWorks, or AutoWorks that returns you to the Main Menu (Apple-Q followed by an ESCAPE), declares that you want to create a new word processor document, and inserts the format codes at the beginning of your document. Invoke that macro whenever you want to start a new document.

2. If you are technically oriented, you can have AppleWorks print an ASCII file with a limited number of Control or Escape codes in the file. Define a custom printer and tell AppleWorks to "Print onto disk" when configuring AppleWorks for that "printer". Now use the Boldface Begin, Superscript Begin, and Subscript Begin areas to hold your Control and Escape codes. When you create a document, insert the appropriate formatting commands to generate the desired Control or Escape code in the file.

If this work-around is unsatisfactory, you might want to use AppleWriter as your word processing program. I don't want to discourage you from using AppleWorks, but the authors of the program had to make some compromises that might make AppleWorks unsuitable for your application.

3. You cannot use the Replace command to find carriage returns in AppleWorks. You could either enter the "<" manually or write a macro that starts each new paragraph by entering two RETURNS followed by the "<" sign.] ■

Look for NAUG at AppleFest!
2:00 Saturday, September 19, 1987

Operating Speed of AppleWorks —Part 2

by Warren Williams, Bill Johnston, and Cathleen Merritt

This is the second of two articles about the operating speed of AppleWorks. Last month's article compared the speed of AppleWorks on different Apple computers. This month, the authors compare the speeds of different versions of the program.

Did you hear the rumor that the data base module in AppleWorks version 2.0 is slower than earlier versions of AppleWorks? Did you hear that the spreadsheet runs faster in version 2.0 than in version 1.3?

We put those rumors to the test; more specifically, to eight tests comparing the speed of versions 1.3 and 2.0 of AppleWorks. We tested all three modules of the program, and we repeated the tests on computers equipped with TransWarp accelerator cards. This article summarizes our findings and conclusions.

Description of the Files

Our tests used three large files, constructed specifically for this study. The word processor file contained approximately 40 pages of text with no formatting commands. The file used 122K of AppleWorks desktop. The data base file contained approximately 1600 records, each record having data in 12 categories. The data base file used 124K of AppleWorks desktop. The spreadsheet file contained a value in cell A1 and a simple formula (1.0453/A1) in 3,600 cells in rows 1-300 and in columns A-L. The spreadsheet file consumed 99K of AppleWorks desktop.

Description of the Hardware

We conducted all tests on an Apple //e computer equipped with a one megabyte RamWorks /// card. We ran one series of tests using a TransWarp accelerator card and repeated the tests with the card removed from the computer.

Description of the Software

Since we used a RamWorks /// card to expand the memory of our Apple to accommodate these large files, we enhanced AppleWorks with the appropriate version of Applied Engineering's desktop expansion software. We enhanced version 1.3 of AppleWorks with the AppleWorks Super Desktop Expander, and enhanced version 2.0 with the AppleWorks 2 Expander. We did not install any accessory programs (e.g., macro programs or desktop accessory programs) onto the AppleWorks disks.

Description of the Tests

Figures 1-3 summarize the results of our tests on a non-TransWarp equipped Apple. Figures 4-6 present the results of the same tests with a TransWarp card installed in the computer. Figure 7 lists the eight tests we ran on both hardware configurations. We repeated all tests at least three times and reported the average time of the three runs. Since we loaded AppleWorks onto the RamWorks card, there were no disk accesses throughout the tests.

Findings

The results support the following conclusions:

Word processing:

1. In general, there was little difference in the speed of the word processor modules in versions 1.3 and 2.0 of AppleWorks. The differences that exist favored version 2.0 of the program. While these differences were generally

(continued on the page 8)

Figure 1: Speed of AppleWorks – Standard Computer – Word Processor

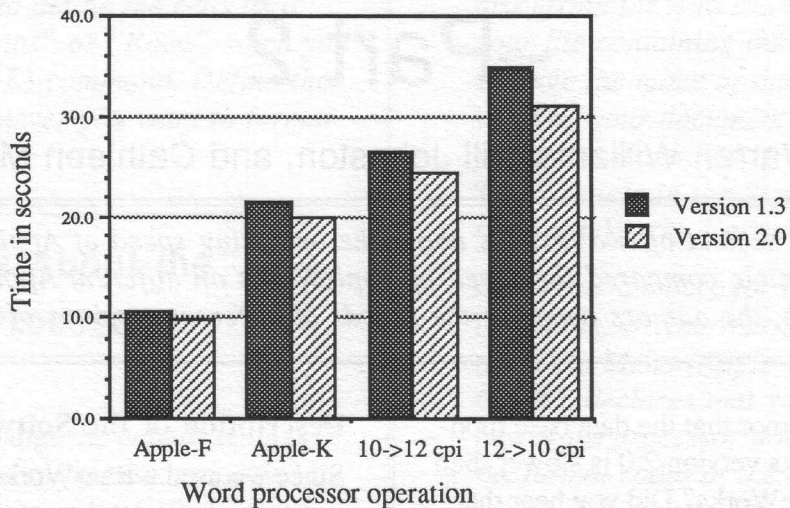


Figure 2: Speed of AppleWorks – Standard Computer – Data Base

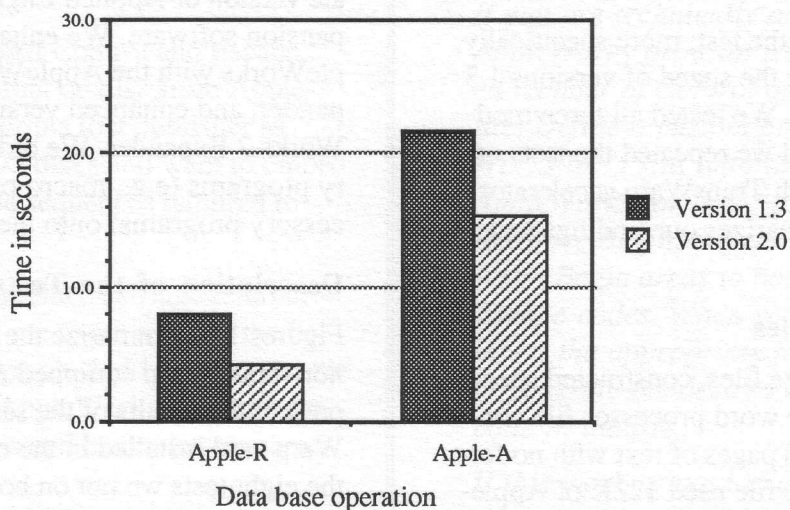


Figure 3: Speed of AppleWorks – Standard Computer – Spreadsheet

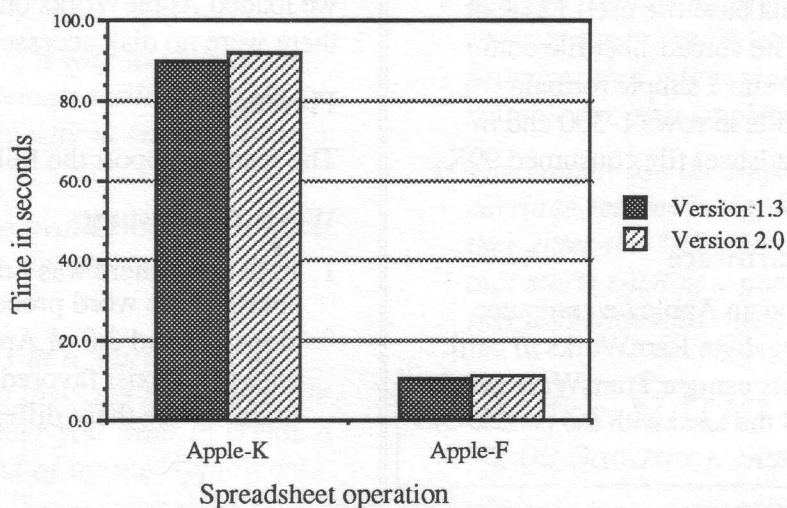


Figure 4: Speed of AppleWorks – w/TransWarp – Word Processor

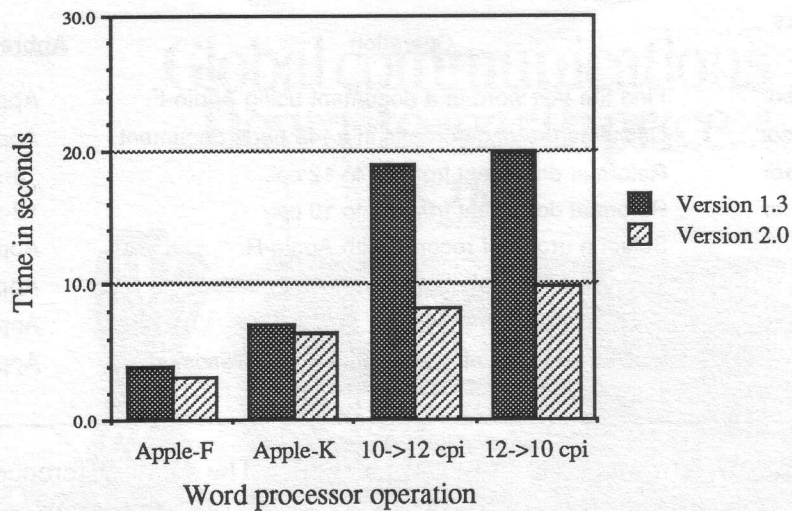


Figure 5: Speed of AppleWorks – w/TransWarp – Data Base

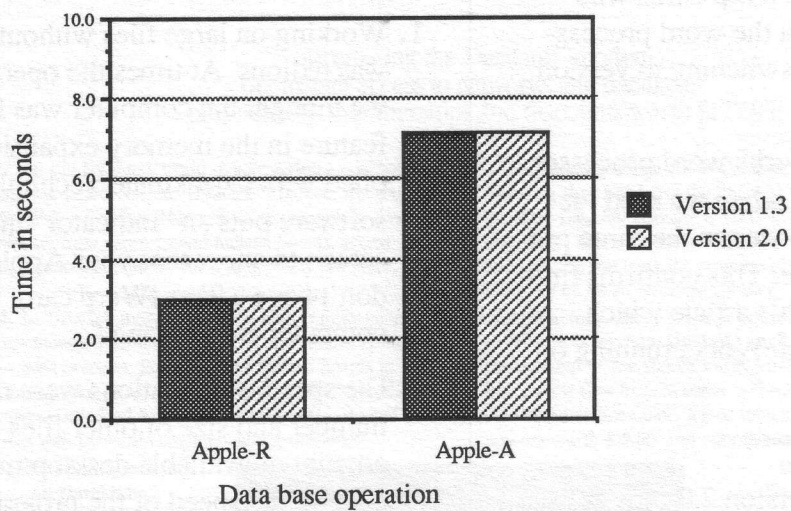


Figure 6: Speed of AppleWorks – w/TransWarp – Spreadsheet

